

sisted on by the people of the house, and the woman was soon after sent in a carriage to the Pennsylvania Hospital. When admitted she was unconscious and moribund, with great lividity of the surface, and she died at 2 P. M., just twelve hours after she had gone to bed apparently in her usual health.

From the time she was first seen by Dr. Scholfield she had taken freely of brandy and quinia.

The *autopsy* was made next day at 11 A. M., in the presence of Drs. Gerhard, Hartshorne, Morton, the resident physicians, and the medical class of the hospital. The appearances presented were as follows: *Exterior*. Rigidity well-marked. The entire surface of the body, excepting those parts on which it rested, was of a dull livid color. There were patches, as before described, on the face, chest, and abdomen, and numerous petechiæ on the legs. On cutting through the scalp there was an escape of dark fluid blood with which the vessels were turgid. A large ecchymosis was found on the left temporal bone, and smaller ones on other parts of the cranium. The meningeal vessels were filled with black blood. The most careful examination failed to detect any evidence of inflammation either in the substance of the *brain* or in its membranes. The *spinal cord* was removed in its entire length, and was examined both by the unassisted eye and with the microscope. It was of a firm consistence, and in every way free from disease.

The *lungs* contained a large quantity of dark fluid blood. There were blood stains on the pleuræ and on the arch of the aorta. The *heart* had undergone a slight fatty degeneration. It contained a large quantity of fluid blood; was free from coagula, excepting three soft clots about the size each of a pea. The *spleen* was firm and of the usual size. The *liver* congested and fatty. The *stomach* and *intestines* both on their outer and inner coats were dotted with innumerable blood spots. A large extravasation was found on the *pancreas*, and one entirely covering the summit of the *uterus*. In the *ovaries* several vesicles were found filled with black blood. A few spots were seen on the bladder, and a large number on and in the kidneys.

June 25, 1865.

---

#### DOMESTIC SUMMARY.

*Cerebro-spinal Meningitis*.—Dr. T. F. PREWITT gives (*St. Louis Med. and Surg. Journal*, May and June, 1865) a brief sketch of this disease as it appeared in his practice in the winter of 1861–62, in Livingston Co., Mo. The disease, he states, “first made its appearance among the soldiers stationed at Chillicothe, during an unusually severe and protracted spell of dry cold weather, and its true character not being at first recognized, it gave rise to a strong suspicion of poisoning, the delirium and dilatation of the pupils which existed in many of the cases suggesting stramonium, or some of the other vegetable narcotics as the poisonous agent. Measles had been prevailing also among the soldiery during the winter, and had proved fatal in some cases, but there is no evidence to show that the appearance of the two diseases, at the same time, or in succession, was more than a coincidence—a coincidence, however, that has been observed in other epidemics as well.”

In all the cases seen by Dr. P., “headache, or rather what was described as severe pain in the head, was a marked symptom—so prominent a symptom indeed, that the disease was known in the counties where it prevailed as the ‘Head

Disease.' Vomiting, too, was a constant symptom, and delirium was generally present at some period of the disease. The pulse varied, sometimes being but little accelerated, soft and intermittent, but generally quick, small, not hard and wiry, but weak and indicating rather prostration.

"There was but little disturbance of the bowels, and, usually, they responded readily enough to the action of cathartics. The tongue was moist, sometimes with a light brown coat upon it; sometimes almost normal in its appearance. Most of the cases complained of great soreness of the flesh, and all of those which proved fatal presented, in the course of the attack, the mottled appearance of the skin mentioned in the first case, but in none, except one, were there petechiæ. In one, a woman aged about 50, there were large livid-looking bullæ upon the feet.

"As far as I am able to recall the symptoms, spasmodic action of the muscles and opisthotonos did not exist to the extent they have been observed in other localities, although present to some extent in most of the cases."

Of the treatment Dr. P. has but little to say, none of the remedies he resorted to having led to satisfactory results.

Quinia produced no good effect, indeed he states it seemingly caused "a positive increase of the cerebral excitement."

"In one of the cases that recovered I treated by bleeding at the outset followed by a pretty free exhibition of opium combined with mercurials. The symptoms in this case were not so severe, however, as in the others. In the other case which recovered, the symptoms were slight, the left arm being somewhat affected, with some headache and nausea. Little or no medication was used in this case. Opium has been recommended with some degree of confidence by eminent practitioners, and is the only remedy to which any number of those who have treated concur in ascribing good effects."

*An Epidemic of Typhoid, Typhus, and Spotted Fever.*—Dr. T. J. PEARCE, of Mechanicsburg, Ohio, states (*Cincinnati Lancet and Observer*, May, 1865) that residents of his place enjoyed during last summer and fall a remarkable immunity from all forms of fever. "In the month of October, however," he adds, "a soldier returned to his home in our town sick of typhoid fever. His case was well defined, of the enteric form, and confined him to his bed and room some six weeks.

"Before he had fairly recovered, his mother, a healthy woman, about forty years of age, was taken down with the same variety of disease, next a younger brother, and in quick succession other members of the family were attacked, and, finally, five of the same family were sick of typhoid fever within a few weeks from the recovery of the first case—none escaping but the father, a remarkably stout, healthy man.

"From this point of beginning, the disease spread to other families until the majority of the dwellings in that part of the village contained one or more cases of typhoid fever. Gradually it extended to other more distant neighbourhoods in town and country, and finally, this was our prevailing form of disease until in the following February, when it merged into, or gave place to several cases of the alarming disease known as Spotted Fever, which at the present writing, March 23d, has, I believe, subsided, leaving our community again reasonably free from disease.

"The disease, from its commencement to its close, selected its subjects alike from all classes of society. Ease and opulence gave no more immunity than squalor and poverty. The only preference it seemed to manifest was for women and children, there being very few adult males affected at any part of the season.

"The cases arranged themselves into three varieties, appearing to my mind at least, but separate links of the same chain of disease. First we had the well-defined typhoid fever of the enteric variety, next the well-marked typhus, and third, the spotted fever, which last form seemed but a rapid evolution of typhoid or typhus, produced by the same *materies morbi*, but of greater virulence or larger amount, and influenced in its manifestation by constitutional and predisposing differences. These different varieties were attended with all grades of